

SUGAR and PLANTATION NEWS

EXPECT CONTROL TO INTERFERE LITTLE IN SUGAR AFFAIRS

Better Sentiment Noticed in New York Market Just Before Announcement Is Made

STATISTICS BULLISH BUT PRICE KEPT DOWN

Buyers Enter Market After Delay and Confidence in Commission Is Growing

Up to the middle of this month the overshadowing influence in the Eastern sugar market was probable regulations on sugar, a letter received this week by a local agency from its New York representative says. Conviction is growing that the regulations will interfere as little as may be practical with the general conduct of the sugar business and in New York, on the date of writing, September 15, a better tone was noticeable and buyers were in the market at 6.00 cents.

The New York letter says: "All interest in this market is centered in the outcome of sundry conferences between refiners and members of the Food Control Board. Up till now all is more or less conjecture and surmise, but we are promised a definite statement as to the result of these conferences by the beginning or middle of next week.

"The belief that the usual channels of trade in this commodity will be interfered with as little as possible grows and for partial confirmation we have the report of a sale to the Federal yesterday—the first in almost two weeks—of 15,000 bags of Cuban for prompt shipment at 5 7/8 cents C. & F. The equivalent of 6.90 cents duty paid. There are said to be at least four other buyers prepared to pay this price for prompt sugar, but sellers are holding firm for 6 cents and, what offerings there are, in very limited quantities at that. There is said to be some dissatisfaction on the part of some of the best sugar people owing to the a misapprehension of just what is meant by a price based on 7.25 cents for cane sugar in New York. Costs of the best sugar producers have increased materially this year and their ability to absorb freight rates is much less than in former years when the above basis would have been considered very attractive.

Last Cuban Figures

Figures from Cuba for week ending September 8 are:

	Himely, Tons.	Gum, Tons.
Receipts	13,275	9,265
Exports	55,432	60,702
Stock	197,912	181,463
Centrals	5	5
Exp. Atlantic Ports	55,842	44,741
Exp. New Orleans, etc.	9,422	5,801
Exports Europe	10,171	10,100

"The weather as a whole in Cuba has not been ideal, but, barring accidents and unforeseen political trouble, a much larger crop than can be harvested this year is reasonably certain.

PAY OF LABORERS

The poorest paid laborer on the Hawaiian plantations, who works twenty days a month, receives indirect wages of \$15 and \$10.80 bonus, or he is paid at the rate of \$12.50 a day. In addition to this he receives other perquisites such as housing, fuel, water, medical attendance, and so forth, which are certain to cost the plantation at least twenty-five cents a day. Thus the poorest paid regular workers receive the equivalent of \$1.54 a day.

DOES NOT AFFECT BONUSES

On the plantations most seriously affected by the drought, it has been found necessary to cut the working days of laborers. Where this is done it does not affect the bonus system, allowance being made for the compulsory days off. On some plantations there are now only five work days a week, and on some of these it is planned to have two shifts to alternate four and five days each.

EXPECT EXTRA DIVIDENDS

Extra dividends are expected to be paid in the near future by several of the Hawaiian sugar companies and possibly by other companies as well. Under the War Tax Bill, as its terms have been received here, there is a surplus levy on accumulated surpluses. Already some such dividends have been paid and a well known man in the Honolulu world of sugar and finance said yesterday that he expected to see a number more declared before the new law became effective on such surpluses as had been accumulated.

Mill of Oahu Sugar Company Doubled in Size

Boiling House Is Increased Sixty Per Cent—Plant Is Electrified and Next Year Will Show Fifty Per Cent Bigger Output

Important improvements which will greatly increase the capacity of the Oahu Sugar Company mill at Waipahu have been completed and next year's output will be far larger than that of the present year. An ample supply of cane for the grinding is confidently counted upon from the land watered by the Waiahole project.

The old mill of the Oahu Sugar Company had fourteen rollers. The capacity of the mill has now been doubled by the adding of another unit equal in size which makes a mill of twenty-eight rollers. Some new machinery, in addition to that required for the new unit has also been put in and when the grinding of the 1918 crop is started in December the new big mill will be put in operation.

Other enlargements and improvements have been made in the boiling house where capacity will be increased sixty per cent. The work there also nears completion, added centrifugals, one new vacuum pan and mud presses being all that is required for completion of this part of the plant.

The new power plant of the company is one of the most interesting of the new features. The electrification of the plant will prove highly important and should work some great savings. This plant has a capacity of about 1500 kilowatts, generated by turbines and is said to be the second largest in the Territory. It is well equipped with modern, up-to-date machinery and is practically ready for operation.

Much other new machinery has been installed in the modernizing and increasing of the Oahu plant and a visit to Waipahu when the next grinding starts is certain to prove interesting.

The Oahu will have enough cane to warrant the installation of the mill and the increase that have been made in a foregone conclusion. It is learned that estimates of the next year's crop are nearly fifty per cent larger than this year's output, certainly forty per cent greater.

It is the Waiahole tunnel and water project that has made this possible. The flow developed has been shown to be ample and the minimum daily flow has been, investigations show, 25,000, 000 gallons. This is sufficient, the agents for the plantation say, to irrigate a minimum of 3000 acres of cane.

NO BUSINESS MEN ON COMMITTEES

Merchants Missing in Personnel of Higher Wage Scale Organization After Meeting

Following a meeting of the "Association on the Higher Wage Question" which was held at the Asahi Theater Sunday evening two committees have been selected, it is learned from authoritative sources. These committees differ from the first committee that was named in that there is not a prominent Japanese business man upon either of them, the members being chiefly doctors, physicians or priests.

The important development of the meeting, which filled the Asahi Theater, was the fact no representative of the Nippon Jiji appeared. This produced some caustic comments from the other newspaper men, the reorganization of the Association having been left to the newspapers. The Nippon Jiji was accused by speakers of "having cold feet," having been bought off by the planters' and of having lost interest and deserted the movement which the Japanese newspapers had started. These charges the paper denied in its columns alleged it had not lost interest but that there should be something tangible and concrete upon which to work before anything definite was undertaken.

The first of the new committees to be named is said to consist of Iga Mori, physician; Jikichi Tatsuhyama, principal of the Japanese Central Institute; Seishu Masuda, principal of the Japanese Kakaku school; Teiji Fujita, interpreter; Katsura Muijoe of the Isona (Shinto) shrine.

The organization committee is said to be composed of Kido Wada, insurance agent; Junzo Watanabe, interpreter; Gunkyo Sakaki, Koto shrine; Toshiyuki Mitamura, physician; Ritshei Masahira, principal Makiki school and Ko Usawa, principal of the Kaimuki school.

At the meeting Sunday evening the only speakers were newspaper men and one priest. It had been announced that representatives of plantation labor would be heard but none spoke. It may have been that there were some present in the crowd of nearly a thousand that crowded the theater.

What the next move to be made will be has not yet been announced.

If you will leave your order for rubber stamps at The Advertiser office before noon today they will be ready for delivery tomorrow.

PAIA Plantation of the Maui Agricultural Company is one of the foremost in improving the appearance of its property and in the erection of up-to-the-minute buildings and improvements. Here is its new concrete office building surrounded by charming lawn and parking.



RECEIPTS OF SUGAR ARE CLOSE TO RECORD YEAR AND BRING MORE

The receipts of sugar into the United States amounted to 7,472,728,906 pounds valued at \$347,674,625 in the fiscal year ended June 30, 1917, against 7,620,085,068 pounds valued at \$308,986,792 in 1916, the high record year, and 6,822,825,102 pounds valued at \$155,077,126 in 1914. While the quantity received in 1917 shows an increase of 9 1/2 per cent over 1916, the value increased 12 1/2 per cent. The Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, Department of Commerce, announces.

Of the total arrivals of sugar in 1917, 5,332,745,854 pounds valued at \$230,945,094 came from foreign countries, 1,162,605,056 pounds valued at \$62,741,164 from Hawaii and 977,377,996 pounds valued at \$53,987,767 from Porto Rico. Of the 5 1/3 billion pounds imported in 1917 from foreign countries 4,609,097,398 pounds came from Cuba, 114,367,301 pounds from the Dominican Republic, 158,107,460 pounds from South American countries, 267,891,954 pounds from the Philippine Islands, 26,406,776 pounds from our recently purchased territory of the Virgin Islands, formerly Danish West Indies, 21,885,000 pounds from Japan, and lesser amounts from other countries.

The imports from the Virgin Islands and Japan show remarkable increases when compared with previous years. There were no imports of sugar from the Virgin Islands in 1916, and the total imports from these islands in the five fiscal years 1912-1916, amounted to 25,912,546 pounds, one-half million pounds less than the quantity for 1917. In 1916 the imports of sugar from Japan were 6,410 pounds, and only 26,443 pounds for the five years 1912-1916, against 21,885,000 pounds in 1917. The imports of sugar from the Dutch East

LOUISIANA SUGAR MEN ARE PATRIOTIC

Meeting of Cane Men Tells Government Ready To Help In All Ways and Asks Little

NEW ORLEANS, September 15.—The Louisiana sugar industry has tendered itself and all that it can do to the United States government to help defeat the Central Powers in Europe. All that it asked at the largest, most momentous and harmonious meeting of sugar planters ever held in this State was a square deal from the government; treatment which would enable the sugar business of Louisiana to continue to exist to serve the government well. The meeting took place at the Greenwood Hotel in New Orleans on Wednesday afternoon. It had been preceded by two preliminary meetings at which all of the wrinkles, if any existed, had been smoothed out and represented at the general meeting by the plantation owners, the biggest accumulation of sugar planters in Louisiana that old fellows in the business say they have ever seen in Louisiana sugar history.

The occasion for the meeting was two fold. One reason for it is to be found in the fact that a report was current that there was a lack of unity between the various sugar producing interests in the State. This statement had no foundation. The American Cane Growers' Association had been ignored by the National Food Administration because they had failed to call to the attention of Mr. Hoover their right to be heard before sugar prices were fixed, as suggested by the refiners who have no interest in the agricultural sugar development of the United States at all. The second reason for the meeting was the report from Washington wired by one of the representative of a New Orleans morning newspaper last week to the effect that the representatives of the American Cane Growers' Association who had hurried there, had made

various grand, but dangerous, offers to the government, one of which was to the effect that they had offered to sell raws for less than 6 cents. When this report got to the sugar parishes there was the greatest kind of excitement. Parish and district associations were hastily formed and delegations selected and sent to New Orleans to confer with John M. Parker, Louisiana food commissioner. Parker suggested and planned a general meeting of all of the planters interested and this is the very successful gathering which was held Wednesday afternoon.

More White Sugar

Every development in the situation is tending towards a greater production of white sugar in Louisiana this year and a greater production in 1918 than in 1917 of white sugar. The planters, in the opinion of one of the best posted sugar economists in the country, must refine their own sugar and sell it through their own selling agencies.

There was no comment Thursday either one way or the other on the proposal to have government inspectors at the sugar factories from October 1 on.

Mr. S. Mills Mailhot of the Oakley factory at Avoca in Assumption Parish, says reports of a greater crop this year than last year are, in his opinion, baseless. He says that he has been fields the cane from eighteen inches to two feet shorter than at this time last year. Some cane he says is not showing joints yet. He says that the crop is fully a month behind that of last year.

Crop Well Along

Only sugar men say that the crop is only about two to three weeks backward in the eastern parishes; and not at all backward in the western parishes. A late grinding is sure. Old timers estimate that there will not be more than a half dozen factories start grinding before November 1. Last year at this time the first syrup had already arrived on the New Orleans Sugar Exchange.

In Iberia Parish the crops are making excellent progress and with a favorable autumn weather a good yield is expected. The cane crop in that parish, according to reports, promises a profit for refiners. In Vermilion the cane crop is jumping instead of growing. The hot, sultry and rainy weather

War Conditions Discounted In Sugar Stocks

Declines From Top Prices of Last Year Are Sufficient To Warrant Assertion That Prices Are Adjusted To New Circumstances

For months past investors in Honolulu have been steadily discounting the probability of war, of sugar control and most especially the added war taxes that are sure to come and are now at most at hand as result of the burden of war costs that must be borne. It may be that this has not been fully discounted yet and that there will be further recessions when the full terms of the War Tax Bill as it finally passes are received, but, on the other hand there are many who think that added taxes and added costs, sugar price control and all else, except possible drought losses in some instance have now been fully discounted.

There have been heavy declines in the prices of all of the active sugar stocks on the local exchange from the top prices of last year. As some of the stocks are of a hundred dollars par value, others \$20 and one \$16 the only comprehensive way of figuring declines is on a "hundred point par" and with declines in points proportionately, that is to multiply the decline in a \$20 par value share by five. In that way a percentage basis of figuring is obtained.

Seventeen of the active stocks of the Honolulu Stock and Bond Exchange have had an average decline of 42.45 points from the high price of 1916. Of these the largest was Kolos, next Olan, third Haiku and fourth Hawaiian Sugar Company.

The following list shows declines in points, not in dollars except where the shares of a hundred dollars par, on each of the seventeen active sugar stocks mentioned.

Stock	Points
Ewa	27 1/2
Haiku 70, Hawaiian Agricultural 25, Hawaiian Commercial 25, Hawaiian Sugar 68 1/2, Honokaa 46 1/2, Kahuku 75, Koloa 90, MyBryde 31 1/2, Oahu 35, Olan 79 3/8, Onomea 25, Paia Mill 23 1/2, Paia 36, Pioneer 32 1/2, Waialua 10 and Waikuku 37 1/2.	

In some instances, as Olan and Honokaa drought conditions have also entered into the discounting of adverse conditions for 1918 but the declines have been such that the assertion that war conditions have been discounted seems well founded.

BONUSES ARE GROWING

It was learned yesterday that the bonuses to be paid to plantation laborers are now figured at seventy-two per cent. They are not likely to fall below this figure, but rather to go above. But two months remain and there is nothing in sight to reduce the percentage that is figured. On the contrary, it is said that it is more likely to be increased.

ONOMEA GRIND ENDED

The Onomea Plantation finished its grind last Wednesday, the crop netting 21,000 tons, which comes close to the record crop of 1915, when 21,320 tons was the result. The present crop, however, is well over the crop of last year when the figures were 18,732 tons.

ESTIMATED CROP VALUE

It is estimated that the value of the 1917 crop, based on an estimated output of 613,620 tons, at the current market price of sugar, will be \$79,165,600. The value of the 1916 crop was \$68,000,000.

was just what was wanted, and sample canes are on exhibition in Alhambra which were grown on the Rose Hill plantation of the Peoples Sugar Company which are six feet tall, five inches in circumference and have fifteen red joints. In St. Mary Parish corn gathering is about to start.

SUGAR CROP SITUATION ON TWO ISLANDS CRITICAL

Only Change in Conditions Is To Make Conditions Still More Serious

No break in the drought on large parts of the islands of Hawaii and Maui is in sight. The only change in conditions is that they are becoming more serious. In August it was said that unless there should be good drenching rains before the end of September the situation would be critical and the hope for rains have not come. Weather bureau reports from the island of Hawaii up to last Thursday told of dry weather in Hilo, North Hilo, Hamakua and North Kohala, indeed in all sections except the Kona section, where at one point there was 4.40 inches fall. In the mountains there were some light rainfalls, more moisture than in the lowlands.

On Maui, except in the Kula section there has been little rain and no improvement. At Kipahulu, enough rain fell to allow some plowing and grinding was resumed.

The following reports have been received from the government weather bureau:

Island of Hawaii

Pailien Ranch (20), North Kohala	0.01
Kohala Mill (20), North Kohala	0.00
Kohala Mission (21), North Kohala	0.06
Nahala (20), North Kohala	0.00
Honokaa (19), Hamakua	0.00
Paauhau (—), Hamakua	0.00

Report not received

Ookala (20), North Hilo	0.00
Laupahoehoe (20), North Hilo	0.00
Honohina (18), North Hilo	0.02
Hakalua (—), South Hilo	0.00

Report not received

Honolulu (20), South Hilo	0.18
Pepeekeo (20), South Hilo	0.00
Pailien Ranch (20), South Hilo	0.00
Hilo (20), South Hilo	0.01
Ponahawai (19), South Hilo	0.00
Glenwood (20), Puna	0.23
Kapoho (20), Puna	0.02
Volcano Observatory (—), Kau	0.00

Report not received

Pahala (19), Kau	0.55
Kealahou (20), South Kona	0.40

Island of Maui

Kaunapali (20), Lahaina	0.14
Waikuku (20), Waikuku	0.00
Haiku Exp. Station (20), Makawao	0.06
Kailua (21), Makawao	0.28

Local Conditions

Kohala Mill, Hawaii—No change. Drought continues.

Island of Hawaii

Island of Maui

Island of Oahu

Island of Kauai

Island of Niihau

Island of Lanai

Island of Molokai

Island of Kahoolawe

Island of Necker

Island of Midway

Island of Laysan

Island of Jarvis

Island of Palmyra

Island of Christmas

Island of Johnston

Island of Wake

Island of Iwo Jima

Island of Pheasant

Island of Sand Island

Island of Suez

Island of Socotra

Island of Zanzibar

Island of Madagascar

Island of Réunion

Island of Mauritius

Island of Seychelles

Island of Comoros

Island of Mayotte

Island of Reunion

Island of St. Pierre

Island of Miquelon

Island of St. Paul

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Niihau, Hawaii—Terribly dry. Honolulu, Hawaii—The rainfall came to 0.02 inch, the same amount as the previous week. There were six consecutive dry days.

Honolulu, Hawaii—In the upper lands, moderate showers occurred with lower temperatures, producing a generally favorable effect on the cane. In the lower lands only light showers fell. Cultivation was interrupted by need of rain.

Ponahawai, Hawaii—The drought continues. No measurable amount of rain during the week. On the 18th the temperature reached 91° the highest ever recorded here. Pastures look scorched, grass bushes and some orange trees on shallow soil are losing their leaves. The leaves of sweet potatoes, planted early enough to be forming tubers, are drying up.

Kapoho, Hawaii—Clouds hang low during the day and threaten to rain. Clear sky at night.

Kealahou, Hawaii—Total for the week 4.40 inches. The rainfall in North Kona is greater than here for the week.

Haiku Experiment Station, Maui—Warm, dry weather continues on the low lands, postponing the planting of beans, potatoes, etc. Fortunately the Kula section was favored with rains sufficient to encourage fall planting. A considerable area of beans and potatoes being put in.

Great Losses Certain

It is now too late for rains to materially help the 1918 crop. They would save the roots on the dried plantations where there is danger of death of the cane even to the roots. Rains would also help the 1919 crop which is being seriously affected now as a result of the long dry spell.

Hawai Plantation is cutting and grinding the 1918 cane now. The product is small and little is saved but it is hoped by cutting now that the roots will be saved and that thus there will not be the necessity of replanting at once but the ration may be saved. Other plantations have not started grinding but are, in numerous instances contemplating doing so.

In ordinary rainy years the Hawaiian crops are suffering. If rain does not come soon the 1918 and 1919 crops will be in a sorry state. It is certain that the December estimate will be far below the early expectations. Some say the loss will be as high as fifteen per cent of the whole estimated output of the islands.

SUGAR NOT SHORT, NOT WHERE NEEDED

Food Administration Says No Lack Exists But Shipments Cause of Trouble

No actual shortage of sugar exists, it is not a lack of supply, it is the inability to get it at points of requirement that is the problem, says a bulletin issued September 1, by the public information division of the United States Food Administration. Continuing this Bulletin says:

"A review of the sugar situation shows that it is not actually a lack of sugar that emphasizes the need for its conservation in the United States so much as inability to get the sugar to the places where it is needed. The world's shortage is comparatively small confined to Europe with the stocks on hand in this country and Cuba and those now coming from Hawaii, it would appear that with proper management and with speculation and hoarding eliminated, there need be no scarcity, even in the immediate future while awaiting the new crop.

World Supply Normal